

## 6420 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

Safety is of paramount concern in providing student transportation services. Consistent with the board's goals for student safety, all drivers involved in transporting students must comply with the following board requirements.

1. School bus drivers shall have all qualifications prescribed by the regulations of the State Board of Education and meet all eligibility requirements outlined in policy [5415](#).
2. School bus drivers shall keep informed of and abide by all federal, state and local laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to the operation of the school buses and shall cooperate with the principal and other school officials.
3. School bus drivers shall undergo and follow all training required by law governing school bus and activity bus passenger safety.
4. School bus drivers shall not operate a school or activity bus on a public street, highway, or public vehicular area while using a mobile telephone or related technology while the bus is in motion, unless such use is for the sole purpose of communicating in an emergency situation.
5. School bus drivers shall use the North Carolina crossing signal required by the State Board of Education to communicate to students when it is safe to cross the street to board the bus and when it is safe to cross the street after exiting the bus.
6. The school bus driver, subject to the direction of the principal, shall have complete authority over and responsibility for the operation of the bus and the maintenance of good order and conduct on the bus, and shall report promptly to the principal any misconduct or disregard or violation of the driver's instructions by any person riding on the bus.
7. School bus drivers shall use reasonable judgment in the operation of the buses.
8. The school bus driver shall permit no person to ride on the bus except as assigned by the principal or transportation supervisor.
9. The school bus driver shall inspect the bus before and after each trip, ensure all students have exited the bus, and report safety concerns or vandalism as specified in Board policy [6400](#), School Bus Transportation.
10. The school bus driver shall not allow a substitute to drive unless the principal or assistant principal has approved and assigned the substitute to drive the bus. Failure to comply with this policy will subject the driver to immediate dismissal.
11. If a yellow school bus or activity bus is involved in an accident where death, injury, or property damage occurs, the bus driver is required to report promptly, on the appropriate form, to the State Department of Motor Vehicles and the Superintendent. All accidents regardless of the damage involved must be reported to the director of transportation. Any part of the vehicle rubbing, scraping, or touching (other than bushes, overhanging limbs, etc.) other objects or vehicles in such a manner to cause damage to either vehicle or other objects constitutes an accident.
12. School bus drivers shall report to the principal or other designated official by the next work day any moving violation citations received while operating any motor vehicle.

whether on or off duty.

LEGAL REFERENCE: G.S. 20-218; 115C-245; 115C-248; 16 NCAC 6B-G.S. 20-7(f)(2), -137.4, -218; 115C-47(25a), -241, -242, -244 to -246, -248, -251, -317.1; State Board of Education policies TCS-H-006 and -010; Handbook for School Bus Drivers, Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles, available at <http://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/driver/schoolbus/>

CROSS REFERENCE: Code of Student Conduct (Policy 4210); Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators (Policy 5145); Selection and Employment of School Bus Drivers (Policy 5415); School Bus Transportation (Policy 6400); School Bus Passengers (Policy 6430)

ADOPTED: February 7, 2005

AMENDED:

**EDENTON-CHOWAN BOARD OF EDUCATION**